

nothing but honey to sell. His favorite bee for the production of comb-honey is an Italian-Carniolan cross, of which he has an excellent strain. He is the originator of the thick top-bar and of the wood-zinc excluder; though too modest to assert his right to the honor.

In the conduct of his business, Mr. Hall's operations are governed by attendant conditions and their immediate requirements, from the standpoint of independent reason, and not according to any set of stereotyped rules, as is too frequently the case with bee-keepers. His is, obviously, a case of "the right man in the right place;" and there is ample evidence on every side of the wisdom of his choice in adopting apiculture as his profession.

At the present time a week seldom passes in which we do not have occasion to recall some of the advice and admonitions given with his characteristic earnestness and kindly manner, fifteen long years ago, when he labored to eliminate the erroneous ideas which we had previously acquired, and to establish in their stead a clear understanding of what then appeared to be a most obscure subject.

Building up Weak Colonies for the Honey Flow.

Wm. McEvoy.

For over a third of a century I have worked more or less at building up the few colonies that I found weak in spring, and experimented a good deal along this line.

Taking combs of brood from strong colonies and giving them to weak ones to strengthen them, was once very much advocated, and is practiced to this day in many parts of the province.

As a rule the larvæ in weak colonies

is not fed as well as it should be, and combs with much larvæ should never be put into any colony that is weak in bees, because it gives the few bees too much feeding to do, and they don't get all the larvæ fed, and the result is a good deal of starved brood.

To get all the larvæ well fed and turn the weak colonies into strong ones in the shortest possible time was a thing I was most anxious to have done. So I thought out a plan that would just do that, and I put it into practice ever since, and have it well.

Just as soon as the strongest colonies are in shape to put the extracting combs on I lift up a comb full of brood that is about ready to be capped, and place it above the queen excluder and leave it there for nine days. I do this with every strong colony.

During the nine days the bees in these strong colonies will feed the larvæ extra well, and all that was in the egg form when I placed the combs above the queen excluder will be capped brood at the close.

At the end of nine days I take all the combs out of the brood chambers of the weak colonies and fill up every brood chamber with capped brood from these top stories, and in a few days after this is done the capped brood will be hatched out, and these weak colonies will be full of bees. The combs that I take out of the brood chambers of the weak colonies I put in the top stories where I took the capped brood out of and let them have that in place of the brood I took from them. The bees in the strong colonies feed the larvæ that is given them from the weak colonies well as before.

Woodburn, Ont., Nov. 28, 1900.

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